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FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR

## NATION'S FINANCES GRAVELY CONCERN CONGRESS LEADERS

## War Laws Including Food Control Act Repealed in House Resolve

## City of Cork Given Over to Torture by Fire and Military Rapine for Two Days

WITNESS  
STORIES  
GRAPHIC

(By Associated Press)

CORK, Dec. 13.—Eye witnesses of the burning of Cork graphically relate how men masked with scarves removed loot from the flame-engulfed shops last night.

Some of them had leather bags overflowing with plunder and additional plunder slung over their shoulders.

It is reported a large number of employees of the destroyed establishments, anticipating their destruction, insured their salaries with English companies.

It is said looters removed from a jewelry store several large trophies which, being too heavy for them to carry off, were thrown into a blazing street car standing in a thoroughfare.

Mrs. Wren, proprietress of a hotel, said that at 9 o'clock Saturday night she was ordered to leave her hotel for its guests, but that she remained inside the building. Shortly afterward the front-door lock was blown away by a revolver bullet and a crowd of men, some in uniform and some in civilian dress, entered and broke bottles until she stood ankle deep in champagne, whiskey and beer. She was then permitted to leave the hotel with her four children before the place was set on fire.

## DUBLIN WIRES CUT

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Daily Mail says prominently in its second edition this morning that telephone communication between England and Dublin ceased early this morning. The London officials said they were unable to communicate beyond Belfast.

The Belfast postoffice reported it was unable to get in connection with Dublin.

## DISARMAMENT DAY SET

DUBLIN, Dec. 13.—December 27 has been set as the date when arms, ammunition and explosives held by civilians in the area under martial law in Ireland must be given up.

## REDS GATHER FORCES

LONDON, Dec. 13.—Concentration of soviet troops are occurring in the direction of Vilna consequent on the arrival of allied and neutral troops in Vilna, says a dispatch received from that city today by the Lithuanian legation here.

## GREAT COTTON CROP BUT PRICES HAVE BEEN LOW

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The cotton crop which began the season in the worst condition in 50 years, has turned out to be the highest crop since 1914, with a production of 12,987,000 bales, according to final estimates announced today by the department of agriculture.

The price of cotton paid to producers December 1 was announced today by the department as 14 cents a pound, the lowest for that date since 1915.

World Court Established  
By Act of League Chiefs

(By Associated Press)

GENEVA, Dec. 13.—The assembly accomplished today the first important constructive act in the work of the League of Nations in adopting a statute for a permanent international court of justice.

The organization as planned still lacks the obligatory appearance of both parties to a dispute and provides no penalty for non-compliance with the decisions of the court.

Johnson Goes on Trial  
For Life; Smith Talks  
Of Death Day at Ranch

Joseph Smith, born in Pennsylvania and testifying with an accent that confirmed his origin, told about the things that happened on Paul Legerska's ranch September 25, when Legerska was fatally wounded and on cross examination by J. A. Ellis for Ben Johnson, on trial for the killing, admitted there had been some talk of finding a rifle where the body of Legerska lay.

"But it was daylight when I was standing by Paul," the witness insisted, "and I didn't see no rifle." Legerska "made liquor," Smith stated frankly, under part of the cross examination. He had made the liquor used by Johnson, Bentley, Legerska and himself on the afternoon of the fatal shooting, Smith testified.

The trial of Ben Johnson opened yesterday morning with the filing of a venire of 29 jurors from which, at 3:45, a jury of twelve was selected. Without any more statement of the case than was contained in the reading of the information by the clerk, County Attorney Neil Clark plunged into the taking of evidence. The court room, where a large crowd of people was expected, was virtually cleared when the panel was called and Judge Sweeney excused the extra members of the jury.

But Mrs. Ben Johnson and their little lad were in court with friends, the wife drinking in every word that passed.

Johnson sat impassive by Judge Ellis, only infrequently speaking when addressed by his attorney.

The questioning of Smith proceeded with very little interruption save that due to the witness' inability to grasp counsel's meaning and his difficulty with English in speaking. A point was raised by Judge Ellis respecting the admissibility of testimony concerning any transactions between the witness and Bentley not directly concerning the acts of the defendant. On the state's argument that the whole matter was closely bound up with the acts and motives of the defendant, the court ruled to let in the testimony and Smith told how, after the shooting, Bentley had "beat him up." Later he said Bentley had "torn my clothes off."

There was considerable sitting down and getting up and going out at the Legerska house that afternoon, according to the witness, and that night there was quite a bit of coming and going, all of which was not detailed with great lucidity.

Smith worked at the smelter but occasionally helped Legerska on the ranch. On the day of the tragedy, the witness said, he went to the ranch about noon and went to work cutting corn. Later, about 3:15, he said, Johnson and Bentley drove in sight and they all foregathered in the house where there was a bottle "of booze" on the table. They drank and talked and, Smith said, he got up and passed behind Johnson, taking a small bottle of liquor out of the constable's pocket. There appeared to be a few words and the witness said he told Johnson:

"You know me. I would not steal your booze."

According to the testimony, Paul then came into the room and gathered up two receptacles of liquor and started out the door. Johnson, one witness said, followed Paul, picking up a shotgun that stood near the door. A moment later, neither Johnson nor Legerska being visible to the witness, he heard a shot. Johnson re-entered the room and

put the gun down where it had stood and with Smith went back to the yard. Legerska lay on the ground about 15 yards from the door, the witness said. There was little conversation, Smith made some remark about it being a "bad job." They went back into the house and sat down. Then Bentley "beat up" Smith, Johnson sitting by and saying nothing. Smith said he fled and Bentley and Johnson departed, carrying a gun and a gallon of booze. They left about dark.

Smith dragged the still living victim into the house and put him in bed, inspecting one of the wounds in the back. Several persons came to the ranch, one of them being Anton Toney, a rancher living near Toney reported the affair and later Johnson came to the ranch alone. He did not enter the room, Smith said.

Legerska did not speak. He did not even groan, the witness said. Later Deputy Sheriff T. J. Marks came.

Mr. Ellis took up the matter of the drinking and asked "how drunk" the witness was, but of inebriation, the witness appeared to have no answer and could not answer with any degree of exactness. Judge Ellis then asked about the rifle. Smith said there was some kind of a gun about the house but he had not seen it. "I was not drunk, but I got a little filling," Smith informed the court.

There was no re-direct examination of Smith. The county attorney instead called Anton Toney, but before he reached the stand, the court suspended the inquiry until 9:30 this morning.

Selection of the jury was attended with great care. There were no questions touching capital punishment until one of the members of the venire himself, brought up the subject, saying he was averse to imposing it. He was excused.

Those who will try Johnson are: G. T. Beaver, shill boss at the United Verde; Charles T. McGill, machinist of Clarkdale; R. R. Melholland, transfer man from Camp Verde; W. R. Ueber of Prescott; Frank Cline-Smith, T. T. Alfred, Ezra Jackson, stockman of Hillsdale; Robert McMillan, skip boss for the United Verde Extension; G. A. Ainsworth, rancher; Harry Langdell, mechanic at Byers' Garage; C. W. T. King, stockman from China Valley.

ROB ALTAR OF A  
COSTLY JEWEL  
CASKET

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Pearls and diamonds said to be worth from \$10,000 to \$100,000, were stolen from a golden vessel in the Catholic church of St. Vincent here, it was discovered today. Most of the valuables were piled from the Luna, a vessel of gold used in the church's ceremonies.

They constituted part of the furnishings of the church regarded as among the finest and most beautiful in the city.

## TWO KILLED BY EXPLOSION

(By Associated Press)

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—Two men were killed and a number of others seriously injured it is thought they will die, in the explosion in the bunkers of the steamer Victoria of the Alaska Steamship company, moored at Pier No. 2 here late today.

The vessel is reported to be sinking.

## COTTON MARKET

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Cotton closed easy at a net decline of 67 to 87 points.

ONLY FEW  
MEASURES  
EXEMPTED  
FROM ACT

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Repeal of most of the war-time laws was voted today by the house, which adopted the Volstead resolution for that purpose after two hours' debate.

The vote was unanimous, 323 votes being cast in favor of it. The house, before taking the final vote, accepted an amendment providing for inclusion of the Lever food control act among the laws which the resolution would repeal. The amendment, which covers all provisions of the food control act, with the exception of the section relating to rents in the District of Columbia, was offered by Representative Bland, republican of Indiana. It was carried 179 to 137.

The resolution which now goes to the senate exempts from repeal only the trading with the enemy act, the war finance corporation act and its amendments and measures dealing with the issuance of Liberty and Victory bonds. The resolution declares "any act of congress that, by its terms is in force only during the existence of a state of war and a limited time thereafter, shall be construed and administered as if the present war terminated on the date when this resolution becomes effective."

CONSTANTINE IS  
ON HIS WAY  
TO ATHENS

(By Associated Press)

LUCERNE, Dec. 13.—The members of Constantine's suite with their families and servants, will leave tomorrow for Brindisi, from which port they will depart for Athens.

The departure of Constantine himself for Venice tomorrow afternoon will be informal. He will arrive at Philadelphia, four miles from Athens, at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The party will pick up the Greek council of ministers and Crown Prince George at the Island of Melos and they will join in the triumphant entry into Greece.

Chang is Taken  
to Post Hospital

Ben Chang, the conscientious Chinaman who didn't wish to go to Whipple Barracks because he thought that, having failed to receive compensation due him, he was not entitled to admittance, yesterday afternoon was transferred to the post through the effort and recommendation of Dr. C. E. Young, and was assigned to Ward 3.

Mr. Chang, Red Cross head at the barracks, is interesting himself in Chang's case, and is taking steps to secure Chang's compensation immediately. Chang entered the American army in 1917 as a private in the 160th depot brigade.

## FOREGO MEETINGS

The Musicians club, which has put off all its December meetings, will resume its activity here on January 11.

Campbell Will  
Fly to Tucson  
To Help Build  
New Hospital

(By the Associated Press)

DOUGLAS, Dec. 13.—Brigadier General, Main Craig, commander at Camp Harry J. Jones here, today ordered an army airplane taken to Phoenix tomorrow for the purpose of conveying Governor Campbell to Tucson, where on Wednesday the governor with other able-bodied citizens will den overalls and give a hand toward completion of work on the public health service hospital.

Tucson on that day will suspend all business activities in order that every able-bodied person may assist in rushing to completion the hospital betterments and enlargements which will cost \$250,000.

Quick action is desired because the facilities are inadequate to take care of scores of tubercular ex-service men awaiting accommodation in the hospital.

Alien Bar Bill  
Operative Only  
For One Year

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The house today transmitted to the senate the Johnson bill prohibiting immigration to the United States for a period of one year.

The vote in the house on the measure, 293 to 41, brought to an end more than three days of heated debate on immigration affairs. It also followed little attempts by the bill's supporters to lengthen the prohibition period to two years as originally proposed. The first of these attempts brought a rising vote in favor of the two-year exclusion but a second call showed 181 in favor of the one-year period and only 165 opposed.

WYNE BROS. GET  
STREET LIGHT  
CONTRACT

Selecting the "Phoenix type" of ornamental street lights, a committee of the city council last night recommended to a special meeting of the council and the bid of Wynne Brothers of this city was accepted. As a result, Mr. Vernon street will be lighted and ornamented by slender standards, each bearing at the top a single round globe.

Last night's meeting of the council also canvassed and certified the returns of the primary election in which Mayor Goldwater, Councilman Byers and Councilman Smith were nominated to succeed themselves by a light but one-sided vote.

J. CONWAY TOOLE NEW  
PRESIDENT B. B. LEAGUE

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—John Conway Toole, attorney for the National League, today was elected president of the National Association of Professional Baseball clubs, the new name adopted by the new international league.

Mr. Toole succeeds David Fultz.

SHORT TERM NOTES MAY  
HAVE TO BE REFUNDED;  
TREASURY PROGRAM UP

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Concern of congressional leaders as to ability of the treasury to meet the \$7,500,000,000 of war debts maturing within the next two and a half years was indicated by Chairman Fordney of the ways and means committee today, both in the house and at the opening of hearings, by his committee on revision of the revenue legislation.

The ways and means committee chairman frankly expressed doubt as to whether the estimate of a \$4,000,000,000 annual tax levy would be enough to meet the needs of the government over the period of the maturing of various government notes. As a solution he advocated refunding into long-term bonds the certificates now aggregating \$2,300,000,000 as well as of the first issue of the war savings stamps and the Victory note issue.

Adoption of such a solution, Mr.

Fordney declared, would enable a reduction of taxes below Secretary Houston's estimate of \$4,000,000,000. It also, he said, would permit a tax levy for several years sufficient only to cover current fiscal needs of the government and interest on the public debt and sinking fund operation. The first witness before the committee at the tax revision hearing, however, disagreed with Mr. Fordney on the plan. In reply to questions by Representative Longworth, republican of Ohio, Thomas S. Adams, treasury tax expert and economist, said the program of the treasury appeared to provide sufficient revenue to take care of the maturing obligations except the war saving stamps, which would be paid through the sale of other issues of such stamps as each yearly issue falls due. He added, however, that the treasury estimates for taxation could stand no reduction if the program were to be carried through and the maturing obligations met.

STOLEN MAIL IS  
RECOVERED AT  
BISBEE

(By Associated Press)

BISBEE, Dec. 13.—Checks and money orders totaling \$20,000 were recovered this morning with the finding of a sack of registered mail stolen Friday from a railroad truck at Osborn, eight miles south of here.

The bag, found in a clump of brush two miles from Osborn by two boys, had been ripped open and hundreds of letters and packages torn open. Postal authorities tonight said that as near as the original contents of the sack could be checked, the only mail not found today was an envelope containing two Liberty bonds, one of \$50 and one of \$100 denomination.

Scores of envelopes containing checks and money orders were found lying near the opened mail sack. The sack was stolen Friday while mail was being transferred from the Bisbee-Osborn branch to the main line train of the El Paso &amp; Southern.

## PROPOSES CREDITORS' FUND

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Creation of a fund in each federal reserve district for the protection of depositors of default national banks and trust companies is proposed in a bill introduced today by Representative McClintock, democrat, of Oklahoma. The measure provides that 10 per cent of the annual net earnings of each federal reserve bank shall be deposited in the bank to the credit of the proposed fund.

Relief for Farmers Is  
Passed by the Senate

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The senate late today passed the agriculture commission resolution directing the revival of the war finance corporation as a measure to afford relief to farmers.

The second section which, as introduced, would have directed extension of federal credits to farmers by the federal reserve banks, was amended to make the desirability of such a course only an expression of opinion of the congress.

Another change on suggestion of Senator Smith, democrat, of Georgia, broadened the duties of the finance corporation to include the financing of exports of products other than those produced on the farm. Amendments submitted by Senator Harris, democrat, of Georgia, to make the rate of discount on loans to farmers 5 per cent, and by Senator McKellar, democrat, of Tennessee, to make cotton factors' paper eligible for discount, were rejected by overwhelming votes.